REPLY TO:

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September 13, 2016

VIA E-MAIL AND U.S. MAIL

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 4 Freedom of Information SNAFC Building, 9th Floor 61 Forsyth Street, S.W. Atlanta, GA 30303-8960 r4foia@epa.gov

Re: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (FOIA) REQUEST

Dear FOIA Officer:

Under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552, I request the information described below. I am a commercial requester and am willing at this time to pay fees up to \$100.00 for such information. If the fees exceed this amount, please advise me to obtain further authorization.

On July 23, 2015, the Army Corps of Engineers ("Corps") issued Contract W912EP-15-D-0006 to Water & Air Research. The contract was subsequently terminated, and the Corps acquired or attempted to acquire the professional services under the contract from the United States Army Engineer Research and Development Center ("ERDC"). The requested documents relate to the Corps' acquisition or attempted acquisition of professional services from ERDC.

This request is for you to provide:

- 1. All documentation related to the Corps' acquisition of or attempt to acquire professional services for obtaining and analyzing sediment samples, water samples, and bioassay samples as part of the process for obtaining required Environmental Protection Agency concurrence on the Corps' proposed issuance of permits for dredging and deep-water disposal of the resulting spoil in 2015 or 2016 at Kings Bay, Georgia from the United States Army Engineer Research and Development Center ("ERDC"), including, but not limited to:
 - a. The draft Section 103 Sediment Report sent to EPA by the Corps;
 - b. EPA's Request for Additional Information; and
 - All e-mails related to the project, sent by EPA to the ERDC and or other parts of the Corps.

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- 2. All documentation related to the Corps' acquisition of or attempt to acquire professional services for obtaining and analyzing sediment samples, water samples, and bioassay samples as part of the process for obtaining required Environmental Protection Agency concurrence on the Corps' proposed issuance of permits for dredging and deep-water disposal of the resulting spoil in 2015 or 2016 at Port Everglades, Florida from the ERDC, including, but not limited to:
 - a. The draft Section 103 Sediment Report prepared by the ERDC;
 - b. The draft Section 103 Sediment Report sent to EPA by the Corps;
 - c. EPA's Request for Additional Information; and
 - d. All e-mails related to the project, sent by EPA to the ERDC and or other parts of the Corps.

If any or part of this request is denied, please cite the specific exemption(s) that you believe justifies not releasing this information. If you claim that any part of a document which has been requested is not subject to disclosure, I request that you provide all portions of the material that are subject to disclosure and a list describing those documents or portions of documents being withheld. Should any part of a document designated for disclosure contain information that is excluded, please redact and produce accordingly.

I would appreciate your handling this request as quickly as possible, but in any event within 20 working days as set forth in 5 U.S.C. § 552 (as recently amended). If it appears that any of the documents requested will require more than the allowed time to assemble and copy, it is requested that I am promptly advised and that the other documents be released as soon as they are available.

Thank you for your prompt assistance in this matter. If you have any questions, please contact me at khsu@smithcurrie.com or (202) 452-2140.

Sincerely yours,

SMITH, CURRIE & HANCOCK LLP

Kathleen Y. Hsu